Addressed to Mr.
S. May in reply
to a note from
Miss Martineau

West Newbury March 27th 46

Dear Friend,

I hasten to reply to your letter which I received last eve — I do not think that the Memoir of H Ware does justice to his anti slavery character, & yet I think that there is little or no foundation for the assertion that his anti slavery opinions had anything to do with his leaving Cambridge. He never wrote to me after the publication of the memoir & the whole idea of its effect on him is new to me. While I do believe that his devotion to the cause increased with every day of his life & that these two songs were the outpourings of a soul that could not contain itself any longer — his wife told me that in his latter days he often said "Oh if I could do something for this great cause" & that he was very happy at finding within himself the power to write those songs, & at every anti slavery meeting expressed a hope that his songs might be sung so that the world might

know where his heart was
upon the subject — I saw
him last in the summer
of 39 & he told me then
that his soul was on fire
whenever he thought of it
& I have no doubt that
when he was free of the
college he rejoiced that
he would if he lived
devote himself more to
the great work in which was
his heart, past all question
Dr. Ware has evidently
put his ~~an~~ brothers' anti
slavery life & character
as much out of the
question as he would &

yet speak the truth according to the letter. He did not mention that Henry, often notified the members of the Cambridge anti slavery Socy to meet at his house & could not get them together & that it was not his fault that it fell off. This his wife told me last spring — Dr Higginson & my husband were away & the rest were — I suppose, afraid You see therefore that the idea at the bottom of H Martineau's assertion is not far from correct, & he (H Ware) may have written to her what gave her full right to think what she has asserted correct & I strictly know nothing of it I have related only what I know. It will always give me great pleasure to do or say anything that may aid you in your search for truth & can never be a trouble to me. Yrs truly Eliza L Follen

Ms. B. 1. 6 v.2 p.15